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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 26 totaled an estimated 15.0 billion ton-miles, 9.2 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 12 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 181.2 billion ton-miles, 5.2 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 26 totaled 347,199 cars, 12.4 percent below 1982, and 2.7 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 18.8 percent in the East, 8.9 percent in the South and 9.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products increased by 18.1 percent and motor vehicles and equipment were up 8.5 percent. Fourteen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 19 totaled 41,917 cars, up 13.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 71,943 trailers and/or containers, 14.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 11 weeks of the year was 453,750 cars, 15.3 percent higher than last year, and 775,489 trailers and/or containers, up 11.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/26/83:

	Loadings in Week ended March 26, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,688	D	3,136	11.7	D	2,680	10.2
Other farm products	3,082	D	336	9.8	D	336	9.8
Metallic ores	11,990	D	7,892	39.7	D	48	0.4
Coal	94,023	D	28,900	23.5	D	5,270	5.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	6,275	D	1,324	13.8	D	22	0.3
Nonmetallic minerals	10,506	D	222	2.1	D	1,420	11.9
Grain mill products	11,668	D	911	7.2	I	135	1.2
Food and kindred products	11,871	D	2,204	15.7	D	333	2.7
Primary forest products	14,246	D	1,795	11.2	D	676	4.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,563	I	1,157	18.1	I	244	3.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,497	D	2,342	13.1	I	56	0.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,697	D	438	1.8	I	111	0.5
Petroleum products	4,148	D	536	11.4	D	363	8.0
Stone, clay and glass products	9,280	D	1,230	11.7	D	313	3.3
Coke	5,182	D	114	2.2	I	307	6.3
Metals and products	9,097	D	2,619	22.4	I	130	1.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,563	I	1,295	8.5	D	151	0.9
Waste and scrap materials	8,134	D	690	7.8	D	351	4.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,753	D	829	8.7	D	64	0.7
All other carloads	49,708	I	5,431	12.3	I	1,277	2.6
LCL traffic	228	D	1,294	85.0	D	27	10.6
Total Cars Loaded	347,199	D	48,929	12.4	D	9,794	2.7
Corresponding week of 1982	396,128						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (12 weeks)	4,156,317	4,562,407	D 8.9
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
11 weeks ended March 19	166.3	174.6	D 4.8
Week ended March 26	15.0	16.5	D 9.2
12 weeks cumulative	181.2	191.1	D 5.2

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